

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

PETERBORO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

ADOPTED FEBRUARY, 1843.

OBJECT OF THE INSTITUTE.

- 1st. This Association shall be called the "*Peterboro Mechanics' Institute*."
- 2d. Its object shall be to instruct its members in the principles of the Arts and in the various branches of Science and useful knowledge.
- 3d. The establishment of a *Library* consisting of Works on the Arts and Sciences and general Literature, a *Museum* of Natural History, Mineralogy, &c. &c. and *Lectures* from time to time on various subjects as the Institute may direct.

INSTITUTE HOW CONSTITUTED.

- 4th. The Institute shall consist of an unlimited number of Members who shall pay an Admission Fee of 2s. 6d. each and an annual subscription of 5s. to be paid quarterly or yearly in advance and who shall sign a Declaration to the following effect, viz:—"I do hereby promise to observe and keep all the Laws and regulations of the Peterboro Mechanic's Institute and to promote its welfare to the best of my ability."
- 5th. Any person paying the sum of two pounds ten shillings currency, or presenting a donation of Books or Philosophical Apparatus to the amount of £5 may become a member for life.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE.

- 6th. The officers of the Institute shall consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and six Committee men, who together shall form a Committee of Management, to whom the General Government of the Institute shall be confided.—Six of whom shall form a Quorum.
- 7th. All Officers must be Members of the Institute, shall be elected by Ballot, and no person shall be considered elected unless he receive a majority of the votes present.
- 8th. The annual Election of Officers and Committee men shall take place on the first Thursday of January in every year—and *Fourteen* days Public Notice of such election shall be given by the Secretary—and the General Meetings of the Institute shall be held on the first Thursdays in January, April, July and October in each year and the Meeting in January to be considered as the Annual Meeting.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS.

- 9th. The Members of the Institute shall be divided into two classes, 1st Ordinary, consisting of those who reside in Peterboro and its immediate vicinity.—2d. Corresponding—to consist of those who reside at a distance. The Corresponding Members shall not pay any subscription, and whatever monies they may give towards the funds of the Institute shall be considered as donations, they shall have a right while in Peterboro to attend the meetings of the Institute, but not to vote unless they have taken up their residence in the town or its immediate vicinity, in which case they shall be subject to the same Laws as Ordinary Members.

10th. Members shall be admitted by Ballot after the 2d day of February 1843, and on admission every ordinary member shall pay his subscription in advance and sign the Declaration before mentioned.

11th. After the 2d day of February 1843, every candidate for admission to the Institute must be nominated by two members in the following form. "We the undersigned members of the Peterboro Mechanic's Institute from our personal knowledge of ——— of ——— do hereby recommend him as a fit and proper person to become a member of the Peterboro Mechanics' Institute," and this form must be delivered to the Secretary that it may be filed for future reference.

12th. Every Member on paying his Subscription shall receive from the Secretary a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Institute, and a *Card* which will entitle him to all the privileges and advantages of the Institute, for the period for which he has paid.

13th. No Member will be admitted to any of the rooms of the Institute without producing his *Card*. The Members Cards are personal and not transferable.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

14th. All monies received on account of the Institute shall be paid to the Secretary, and by him to the Treasurer.

15th. No money shall ever be paid on account of the Institute but by order of the Committee of management.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

16th. The Committee of Management shall have full power to expend the general income or funds, in whatever manner they may deem most beneficial for the objects of the Institute.

17th. The Committee of Management shall have the power of fining or expelling any Member who may conduct himself improperly, but the person so fined or expelled shall have the right of appeal to the first regular meeting of the Institute.

18th. Special meetings of the Institute may be called by the President upon a requisition signed by a majority of the Committee of Management or any Ten of the Members.

19th. The Committee of Management shall have the power of making any By-Laws for their own Government, which may not be repugnant to the Constitution and also of making any regulations they may deem expedient for the admission of visitors.

20th. Notice of any proposed alteration in the Constitution or By-Laws of the Institute, must be given in writing to the Secretary and posted up in the Library for three months previous to the Annual Meeting, when such proposed alteration, must have the support of three fourths of the Members present to authorize its adoption.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE LIBRARY.

1st. The Library shall be open for the delivery and Exchange of Books every Monday evening from 6 to 9 o'clock.

2d. No Member shall be allowed to have more than one work in his possession at any one time.

3d. Members shall not be allowed to retain a Book in their possession longer than the time specified by the Label on the inside of the cover, without renewing the same, under the penalty of *One Penny* for each day it may be detained; but they may have it renewed by the Librarian if it has not been demanded by any other Member.

4th. The Librarian shall examine all Books when returned, and if injured, determine the amount of damage sustained, and until the amount so laid on be paid, the Member liable to the same shall be deprived of the use of the Library.

5th. Any Member who shall lose a Book belonging to the Library or so injure one that the Committee shall deem him liable to pay for the same, shall pay the value thereof as determined by the Committee.

6th. Members shall not be allowed to lend the Books of the Library under the penalty of *Five Shillings*.